Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of modulating the activity of metabotropic glutamate receptors, said method comprising:

contacting said receptors with at least one compound having the structure **A-L-B** or enantiomers, diastereomeric isomers or mixtures of any two or more thereof, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, in an amount sufficient to modulate the activity of metabotropic glutamate receptors wherein:

A is thiazolyl optionally substituted with 1 or 2 independent halogen, substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, heterocycle, mercapto, nitro, carboxyl, carbamate, carboxamide, hydroxy, ester, cyano, amine, amide, amidine, amido, sulfonyl or sulfonamide;

L is alkynylene; and

B is substituted or unsubstituted aryl,

wherein said aryl substituents are selected from lower alkyl, lower ankenyl, lower ~~akkynyl~~ alkynyl, hydroxy, hydroxy-lower alkynyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyloxy, lower akenylenedioxy, lower alkanoyloxy, phenoxy, phenyl-lower alkoxy, acyl, carboxy, esterified carboxy, amidated carboxy, cyano, nitro, amino, acylamino, N-acyl-N-lower alkylamino, halo, halo-lower alkyl, and wherein phenyl, phenyl lower alkynyl, phenoxy, and phenyl lower-alkoxy are optionally substituted.

Claim 2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said excitatory amino acid receptor is a metabotropic glutamate receptor.

Claim 3. (canceled)

Claim 4. (currently amended) A method for treating a disease condition which is treatable by modulation of the activity of metabotropic glutamate receptors, said method

comprising: administering to a patent having said disease condition, a therapeutically effective amount which is sufficient to modulate the activity of metabotropic glutamate receptors, of at least one compound having the structure **A-L-B** or enantiomers, diastereomeric isomers or mixtures of any two or more thereof, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A is thiazolyl optionally substituted with 1 or 2 independent halogen, substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, heterocycle, mercapto, nitro, carboxyl, carbamate, carboxamide, hydroxy, ester, cyano, amine, amide, amidine, amido, sulfonyl or sulfonamide;

L is alkynylene; and

B is substituted or unsubstituted aryl,

wherein said aryl substituents are selected from lower alkyl, lower ankenyl, lower ~~akkynyl~~ alkynyl , hydroxy, hydroxy-lower alkynyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyloxy, lower akenylenedioxy, lower alkanoyloxy, phenoxy, phenyl-lower alkoxy, acyl, carboxy, esterified carboxy, amidated carboxy, cyano, nitro, amino, acylamino, N-acyl-N-lower alkylamino, halo, halo-lower alkyl, and wherein phenyl, phenyl lower alkynyl, phenoxy, and phenyl lower-alkoxy are optionally substituted.

Claim 5. (canceled)

Claim 6. (canceled)

Claim 7. (canceled)

Claim 8. (previously presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein said disease condition is neuropathic pain, chronic pain, acute pain, painful diabetic neuropathy, post-herpetic neuralgia, cancer-associated pain, pain associated with chemotherapy, pain associated with spinal cord injury, pain associated with multiple sclerosis, causalgia and reflex sympathetic dystrophy, phantom pain, post-stroke (central) pain, pain associated with HIV or AIDS, trigeminal neuralgia, lower back pain, myofacial disorders, migraine, osteoarthritic pain, postoperative pain, dental pain, post-bum pain, pain associated

with systemic lupus, entrapment neuropathies, painful polyneuropathies, ocular pain, pain associated with inflammation or pain due to tissue injury.

Claim 9. (currently amended) A method for preventing pain in a subject at risk thereof, said method comprising: administering to a patent having said disease condition, a therapeutically effective amount which is sufficient to modulate the activity of metabotropic glutamate receptors, of at least one compound having the structure **A-L-B** or enantiomers, diastereomeric isomers or mixtures of any two or more thereof, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A is thiazolyl optionally substituted with 1 or 2 independent halogen, substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, heterocycle, mercapto, nitro, carboxyl, carbamate, carboxamide, hydroxy, ester, cyano, amine, amide, amidine, amido, sulfonyl or sulfonamide;

L is alkynylene; and

B is substituted or unsubstituted aryl,

wherein said aryl substituents are selected from lower alkyl, lower ankenyl, lower ~~aklkynyl~~ alkynyl , hydroxy, hydroxy-lower alkyny, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyloxy, lower akenylenedioxy, lower alkanoyloxy, phenoxy, phenyl-lower alkoxy, acyl, carboxy, esterified carboxy, amidated carboxy, cyano, nitro, amino, acylamino, N-acyl-N-lower alkylamino, halo, halo-lower alkyl,
and wherein phenyl, phenyl lower alkynyl, phenoxy, and phenyl lower-alkoxy are optionally substituted.

Claim 10. (canceled)

Claim 11. (canceled)

Claim 12. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A pharmaceutically acceptable salt form of the compound [according to claim 1, wherein] **A-L-B**, wherein:

A is thiazolyl optionally substituted with 1 or 2 independent halogen, substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, heterocycle,

mercapto, nitro, carboxyl, carbamate, carboxamide, hydroxy, ester, cyano, amine, amide, amidine, amido, sulfonyl or sulfonamide;

L is alkynylene; and

B is substituted or unsubstituted aryl,

wherein said aryl substituents are selected from lower alkyl, lower ankenyl, lower alkynyl, hydroxy, hydroxy-lower ~~akkynyl~~ alkynyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkenyloxy, lower akenylenedioxy, lower alkanoyloxy, phenoxy, phenyl-lower alkoxy, acyl, carboxy, esterified carboxy, amidated carboxy, cyano, nitro, amino, acylamino, N-acyl-N-lower alkylamino, halo, halo-lower alkyl, and wherein phenyl, phenyl lower alkynyl, phenoxy, and phenyl lower-alkoxy are optionally substituted,
wherein the salt is a toluene sulfonic acid salt.

Claim 13. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The compound which is 2-methyl-4(phenyl ethynyl)-1,3-thiazole, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 14. (previously presented) The compound of claim 13 which is 2-methyl-4(phenyl ethynyl)-1,3-thiazole p-toluene sulfonic acid salt.

Claim 15. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A method according to claim 4, wherein said disease condition is cerebral ischemia, chronic neurodegeneration, psychiatric disorders, schizophrenia, mood disorders, emotion disorders, disorders of extrapyramidal motor function, obesity, disorders of respiration, motor control and function, attention deficit disorders, concentration disorders, pain disorders, neurodegenerative disorders, epilepsy, convulsive disorders, eating disorders, sleep disorders, sexual disorders, circadian disorders, drug withdrawal, drug addiction, compulsive disorders, anxiety, panic disorders, depressive disorders, skin disorders, retinal ischemia, retinal degeneration, glaucoma, disorders associated with organ transplantation, asthma, ischemia or astrocytomas.

Claim 16. (currently amdended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 15, wherein said disease condition obesity.